

Message Text

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70

ACTION IO-14

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3315

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O.11652 NA

TAGS IUOTO

SUBJ RATIFICATION OF WTO STATUTES

REF STATE 237788

FOR IO/GRIP

1. AS ORALLY REPORTED TO YOU DURING BRIEF VISIT TO DEPARTMENT MID-DECEMBER LYERLY MET WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL LONATI AND VETTOR GIUSTI OF IUOTO IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT REFTEL AND CLEARLY AND POINTEDLY COMMUNICATED ITS CONTENTS TO THEM INCLUDING CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN PARA TWO THEREOF. US CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES IN RATIFICATION OF TREATIES FULLY EXPLAINED. POINTED OUT LONG DELAYS WHICH OCCUR FROM TIME TO TIME BETWEEN SENATE CONSENT TO RATIFICATION OF A TREATY OR CONVENTION AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH ACTION IN DEPOSIT OF INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION, E.G. VIENNA CONVENTION ON DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS SIGNED 1961, SENATE ADVICE AND CONSENT TO RATIFICATION IN 1966 AND PROCLAMATION BY PRESIDENT AND DEPOSIT OF RATIFICATION IN 1972.

2. LONATI ADMITTED HE PERHAPS OVER-REACTED IN ISSUING PRESS RELEASE UPON LEARNING OF UNANIMOUS ACTION OF US SENATE ON WTO STATUTES, BUT POINTED OUT HE HAD CAREFULLY COUCHED LANGUAGE AS ACTION BY US SENATE ONLY. HE STATED HE WAS VERY PLEASED WITH

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FORWARD STEP BY US WHICH HE CONSIDERED VERY IMPORTANT TO FUTURE OF

TOURISM ORGANIZATION. HOWEVER, HE FURTHER ADMITTED PRESS RELEASE COULD BE MISLEADING (COMMENT: CONVINCED HE DRAFTED IT WITH THAT IN MIND). LONATI PROMISED TO CLARIFY AND EXPLAIN US POSITION IN NEXT GENERAL COMMUNIQUE TO ALL IUOTO MEMBERS WHICH HE EXPECTS WILL BE RELEASED LATE JANUARY 1974. HE DID NOT BELIEVE NEW PRESS RELEASE COULD ADEQUATELY COVER AND EXPLAIN TECHNICAL ASPECTS US RATIFICATION PROCESS AND PREFERRED TO EXPLAIN AND CLARIFY IN NEXT IUOTO COMMUNIQUE. HE PROMISED IN MEANTIME THAT ANY INQUIRIES CONCERNING US RATIFICATION WOULD BE ANSWERED IN LINE WITH CONTENTS REFTEL.

3. IUOTO OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN AWAY ON HOLIDAY SINCE LYERLY'S RETURN TO GENEVA. HOWEVER, NOW MET AGAIN WITH LONATI AND GIUSTI AND RESTATED THE US EXPECTATION THAT ITS POSITION REGARDING RATIFICATION WILL BE CLARIFIED AND EXPLAINED SOONEST BY IUOTO OR WE WOULD HAVE TO ISSUE OUR OWN STATEMENT TO CLARIFY THE MATTER. THEY AGAIN AGREED TO ISSUE AN EXPLANATION PROBABLY IN FORM OF A PROGRESS REPORT WHICH WOULD INCLUDE ADDITIONAL RATIFICATIONS DEPOSITED AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE STATUS OF THE WTO STATUTES. THEY INDICATED RECEIPT RECENTLY OF CAMEROON AND TURKISH RATIFICATIONS. SINCE THIS APPROACH SEEMED FEASIBLE SUGGESTED THE FOLLOWING ITEM BE INCLUDED IN THE PROGRESS REPORT:

BEGIN QUOTE THE UNITED STATES HAS INFORMED THE IUOTO SECRETARY GENERAL THAT THE UNITED STATES SENATE HAS RECENTLY GIVEN ITS ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE RATIFICATION OF THE STATUTES OF THE WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION. THIS ACTION BY THE UNITED STATES SENATE IS THE FIRST STEP IN THE THREE-STEP TREATY RATIFICATION PROCESS UNDER US CONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURES. FURTHER ACTION BY THE US GOVERNMENT IS REQUIRED, INCLUDING A FORMAL DEPOSIT OF ITS INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION, BEFORE US RATIFICATION OF THE WTO STATUTES IS COMPLETE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE COMPLETION OF THE US RATIFICATION PROCESS AT AN EARLY DATE. END QUOTE.

4. IF DEPARTMENT HAS ALTERNATE SUGGESTION OR VIEWS OR BELIEVES MODIFICATIONS OF FOREGOING STATEMENT NECESSARY PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST.BASSIN

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